

Application No. : **10/773,757**
Filing Date : **February 6, 2004**
Office Action : **May 18, 2007**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A compression post for a shear wall positioned on a structural support, the compression post comprising:

a plate ~~mounted~~ mountable to a lower end of an end post of a shear wall, the plate having dimensions selected to conform to the lower end of the end post; and

an extended portion positioned generally perpendicular to the plate, the extended portion having at least one dimension selected to fit through a hole in a midsill of the shear wall and having a length selected to conform ~~[[with]]~~ to a thickness of the midsill such that when the compression post is mounted to the end post of the shear wall and the shear wall is mounted on ~~the structural~~ a structural support, forces applied to the compression post by the end post are communicated via the plate and the extended portion to the structural support.

Claim 2 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is secured to the plate.

Claim 3 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is secured to the plate by at least one weld.

Claim 4 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is secured to the plate by press fitting an end of the extended portion into a recess in the plate.

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Claim 5 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein:

- one end of the extended portion is threaded;
- the plate includes a threaded bore; and
- the threaded end of the extended portion is engageable with the threaded bore to secure the extended portion to the plate.

Claim 6 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, further comprising:

- an endcap on at least one end of the extended portion, the endcap having a bore there through;
- a threaded bore in the plate; and
- a bolt sized to extend through the bore of the endcap, the bolt having a threaded end engageable with the threaded bore in the plate to secure the extended portion to the plate.

Claim 7 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion and the plate comprise a cast unitary body.

Claim 8 (original) The compression post of Claim 1, wherein the extended portion is cylindrical and the at least one dimension is an outside diameter.

Claims 9–17 (withdrawn)